WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Founded December 17, 1857 FEBRUARY 1990

WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

MUSEUM PROJECT PROGRESSING FAVORABLY

The museum project is progressing favorably.

Our request for site plan approval and re-zoning of the property where we plan to move the Wall Street house has been approved. The city has agreed to pick up the tab for the fees required for the review of our application as well as the building permit fees. This amounts to a gift to us of about $800.

If it becomes necessary to move the house to an intermediate site, we have permission to locate it temporarily at the end of Wall Street on a city-owned lot. This may be necessary if the timing is such that we must move the house out of the University's way before the foundation is prepared at the new location.

Perhaps you have noticed that the gas station on Main at Beakes has been torn down and the hole refilled. Though final clearance from the Department of Natural Resources has not been received, there is every reason to believe it will be forthcoming.

Unfortunately, due to the extremely cold and frigid weather in December, the soil was not compacted when the excavation was refilled. To locate the house on uncompacted fill means a special (and more costly) foundation will be required. Our options are being researched.

I am delighted with the way many details are being resolved. Many people have worked together to bring it to this point, and in the future much involvement and commitment will be required form all of you.

Some of you have made a contribution toward this project, though we have not formally begun a fund-raising campaign. The contributions have been most welcome because they have encouraged and strengthened those of us involved in these early planning stages. We are most grateful!

If any others would care to contribute at this time, checks may be made out to:

Washtenaw County Historical Society - Building Fund

and sent to:

NBD - Ann Arbor
125 South Main Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107

Attention: Eugene Fowler

Your contribution can make history!

I am glad to answer any questions you may have.

Karen O'Neal
665-2242

PLAN QUILTING DEMO

The art of quilting will be demonstrated March 17 and 18 at Kempf House, by the U-M Faculty Women's Club quilting section and several antique quilts will be on display.

From now on Kempf House, 312 South Division, will be open to visitors 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, except August. Admission, $1 for anyone over 12, under 12 free.

FIRST LADIES' GOWNS TO BE MODELED IN SHOW

Replica first ladies' inaugural ball gowns will be modeled at a fashion show Saturday, April 7, at Washtenaw Community College, sponsored by the local Embers Chapter of American Business Women. More information in March.

CERTIFICATES OFFERED

Hand-lettered certificates are offered free of charge, framed if desired, by WCHS to organizations for milestone anniversaries. Information: 663-8826. If readers know of such anniversaries

WCHS WILL VISIT OLD U-M OBSERVATORY FEBRUARY 18

The U-M's quaint old Detroit Observatory near University Hospital is what drew two members of the U-M history faculty into local history and preservation.

Professor Nicholas and Dr. Margaret S. Steneck will give a slide talk about the 1854 campus landmark and lead a tour of it at the Washtenaw County Historical Society meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday February 18 at the observatory.

The Stenecks jointly teach a course on University of Michigan history. He heads an effort to preserve historic scientific instruments on campus. He says there are 1,000 pieces of equipment in the building.

The Stenecks, both originally from New Jersey, earned their Ph.D.s from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She is a lecturer in the L.S. & A. Residential College.

The building is at Observatory and Ann Streets. Parking on street or in surface lot at Washtenaw and Huron. No handicap ramps, three steps up. Meeting room heated, rest of building not.

MAKING MAPLE SYRUP TO BE MARCH TOPIC

Making maple syrup as a hobby and commercially, past and present, will be the topic of the WCHS meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 18, at Dixboro Church Fellowship Hall.

Professor Roger Sutherland of Schoolcraft Community College will give a slide talk on *Maple Syrup -- Family Style*. Vice-President Lawrence Ziegler is preparing an exhibit from when he made and sold syrup on the Ann Arbor Farmer's Market FOR about 15 years.

MEMBER OMITTED

The WCHS membership list in the November-December *Impressions* should have listed George Harms along with his wife, Marguerite.

LIGHTHOUSE *'KEEPERS'* NOW SEEK TO PRESERVE LIGHTS

Early lighthouses in the Great Lakes played an important role in the development of the midwest, guiding the ships that hauled the ore and timber and grain safely through the lakes before cars and trucks could get to them by land.

So noted Richard Moehl, president of the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association (GLLKA), when he spoke to WCHS in November.

Maine, with five dozen lighthouses, calls itself the *lighthouse state*, he said. However, over its history, Michigan has had 107 lighthouses "to be almost exact."

This is not counting little lighthouses on posts or some kind of trellis but major navigational aids. A state brochure lists 104. They include a lighthouse depot in Detroit which really wasn't a lighthouse.

The number of lighthouses in Michigan is not really surprising when you look at the 3,200 miles of shoreline. Every thirty miles or thereabouts would be a light.

This is true today but there are no manned lighthouses on the United States side of the Great Lakes. The last two to be automated were Point Betsie north of Frankfort and Sherwood Point in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, in 1983.

If there are no traditional lighthouse keepers today, who is going to take care of them? This is really up to you and I.

The automation of lights has been going on since the turn of the century. The reason is there are cheaper ways of doing the job.

He read a poem by the late Edgar Guest, *The Lightkeeper Wonders*. It begins:

The light I've tended for forty years.
Is now to be run by a set of gears.

It concludes:

And will ever that automatic thing
Plant marigolds in early spring?

A U.S. Lighthouse Society had started on the west coast and a Lighthouse Preservation Society on the east coast before our organization started in 1982. Seven people have turned into 1,400 today. We formally organized as a 501c3 non-profit organization in 1983.

We are dedicated to the preservation of lighthouses and the history of the people who kept them. Early on we developed a method of how you do oral history. We published a pamphlet on it, also a book of ten interviews. Three of the ten interviewees have since passed away.

SOUTH MANITOU ISLAND, 1840
Being restored by National Park Service. Tours go out to it from Leland in Leelanau Peninsula.

This year is the bicentennial of the U.S. Lighthouse Service. It was on August 7, 1789, that George Washington signed into law the act that created the U.S. Lighthouse Service. At that time there were only twelve lighthouses in the colonies.

The first lighthouse built after George Washington signed this law was Portland Head light at Cape Elizabeth, Maine, which was decommissioned last August 7. I was privileged to be part of that ceremony.

So 200 years ago these things started and now it is expected that soon the last of the lighthouses will probably be automated. Today only six or seven are not.

The last manned light will probably be in Boston Harbor. The keeper there has signed a contract with the government that he can be keeper there as long as he lives and there is a new government appropriation that will fund a keeper for the next year anyway.

(The *Ann Arbor News* [December 2, 1989] says that Senator Edward M. Kennedy has introduced legislation to keep the Boston light, built in 1716, manned.)

The lighthouse bicentennial runs until August 4, 1990, the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Coast Guard. The Coast Guard now owns most of the lighthouses.

The concurrent bicentennials are to conclude with a celebration at Grand Haven, Michigan, which is called "Coast Guard City, U.S.A." Senators Don Riegle and George Mitchell, who sponsored a matching grant fund to help restore lighthouses, are expected to attend.

GLLKA won't be able to save all the lighthouses. It's not practical. Moehl estimates it costs four to five times more to restore an offshore light than one to which you can drive.

Waugoshance Light off Wilderness State Park was used as a bombing target in World War II. It is in such bad shape the Coast Guard wants to tear it down.

There is Gull Rock ten miles off the northeast end of Keweenaw Peninsula out in Lake Superior. It's tough to get to. It's about one acre in size and it's on the National Register of Historic Places. Another is Stannard Rock 55 miles north of Marquette, 38 miles from the nearest land which is an island.

He mentioned some other problems in historic preservation:

If you have 501c3 (non-profit) status it can be taken away if you lobby. It's fun to get involved in something but who's going to pay for maintenance 15 years from now? Insurance costs in our organization are up 62 percent this year versus last year.

"There have to be more incentives. We are trying to get some into legislation. I think we should be able to keep the investment tax credit to help people who restore historic properties.

He would also like to see some provision that when you give a dollar to a national register property it would be worth more than $1. This would help generate private funds, he thinks.

The GLLKA publishes a quarterly newsletter, *The Beacon*, and has at least four conferences a year.

They have republished a 1902 book of instructions for lightkeepers. It tells how to sweeten up water if polluted, what you should get for rations, and what a lightkeeper is required to do.

He also displayed a copy of *The Northern Lights* by Dr. Charles K. Hyde, Wayne State University, with photos of lighthouses of the upper lakes by John and Ann Mahan.

He noted that the Michigan Department of Transportation will send its brochure on Michigan lighthouses in a tube as a poster on request. The normally folded brochure opens to 18

x 22 inches and has a picture of Skillagalee light, an octagonal tower on tiny Ile aux Galets northwest of Cross Village.

He then showed slides.

The bicentennial emblem is from a lightkeeper's cap -- a laurel wreath around a lighthouse.

The first lighthouse anyone has heard of was the Pharos Island light in Alexandria, Egypt, completed in 280 B.C. It lasted until 1200 A.D. when it was toppled by an earthquake.

It was 450 feet tall, 100 feet in diameter at the base. It was one of the seven wonders of the world. Another was the Colossus in Rhodes -- another lighthouse.

The Statue of Liberty is one of the best known American lighthouses and the first to be electrified.

He showed a picture of one of the largest Fresnel lenses, abut 12 feet tall with an inside diameter of 10 feet. The glass and brass lens would probably cost one to two million dollars if you could reproduce it today, he said.

This type of lens -- hyper-radial -- was invented by Augusto Fresnel, a French physicist, in 1822. There are eight orders from one, the largest that shines farthest, down to six. The largest in the Great Lakes were second order. There were five of them on the U.S. side.

Moehl was on the team that prepared the Rock of Ages light for automation in June 1985. It is about two miles off the west end of Isle Royale. They removed the second order lens, abut eight feet tall, and the other unneeded apparatus from the ten story tower.

The tower, built in 1908, is self-contained with a sub-cellar, cellar, engine room, office, galley, keeper's quarters, service room and lantern room on top. It is on an island less than an acre in size.

When we got through with our work, a storm came up and we were absolutely inundated for about three days. There is no way in the world we could have ever gotten off.

The lens weighs about a ton. It floated on a bed of mercury. We had a spécial team out there to remove the mercury.

The lens was so well balanced that when we turned off the switch it rotated for five minutes, 33 seconds, before it came to a stop. Then it backtracked 22 seconds. We put the lens in the ranger station. It was to go in the auditorium in Windigo on Isle Royale.

Another second order light is at Spectacle Reef about 19 miles east of Mackinac Bridge. It is a self-contained monolithic stone structure.

About 19-20 miles west of the bridge is White Shoals Light, also called a candy-striper because of its red and white paint job. That lens was removed in 1983 and it is at the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Museum at Whitefish Point where you can see it in operation.

That's just an absolutely gorgeous museum. Tom Farnquist is the director. He is also the one who's been diving on the Edmund Fitzgerald with National Geographic.

They are talking about removing the ship's bell next year. Some preservationists would say leave the bell where it is, but I think they've gotten permission and they are going to use it in a national ceremony commemorating the sailors of the Edmund Fitzgerald on an annual basis at Whitefish Point.

Another second order lens is in Grosse Pointe Light in Evanston, Illinois, on Sheridan Avenue. You can drive right up to it. It's been nicely restored. It is the only second order lens on the U.S. side still in operation today.

A third order lens at Grice Museum in Harbor Beach used to be in Point Aux Barques light at the tip of Michigan's Thumb. It is about four feet tall.

A third order lens is still in operation in the 1870 Presque Isle light up on Lake Huron. Inside those are 1,000 watt bulbs. If one burns out, they sort of work on a teeter-totter and another simply takes its place. The old 1840 lighthouse is about a mile north.

ST. HELENE ISLAND, 1873
Being restored by Great Lakes Lighthouse Keeper's Association.

LIFE AT GULL ROCK

A couple of years ago Life Magazine wanted to do a story on a lighthouse. I suggested Gull Rock light off the Keweenaw Peninsula, Dick Moehl told WCHS.

They decided to go during the week of Halloween. They wanted to be there at dawn. The photographer was Pulitzer-prize-winning Brian Lanker.

"It was a job to get there. Copper Harbor was empty. I had to get the Coast Guard to moor their 44-footer from Houghton up there.

The weather was bad. The boat was bobbing up and down. All aboard were wearing exposure suits. Finally they had word a front was going through and the weather should improve. They started over the photographer's protests.

We got out to Gull Rock and the water was flat as a pancake. He shot 360 pictures and one appeared in the magazine.

There is a third-and-a-half order light at Sturgeon Point just north of Harrisville on Lake Huron.

A new plastic lens about 18 inches tall replaced the glass one at Rock of Ages light. It shines about 19 miles. The old one shone about 21-22 miles.

Inside the new light is a wheel with six bulbs on it, each abut the size of your thumb. When one burns out they simply index and take each other's place. Each bulb lasts about 2,000 hours.

The new lenses with solar panels and a set of batteries do the work that people used to do.

Somebody from the east coast said there are no lights anywhere in the world that are the same. Well, they didn't come to the Great Lakes. There are four lighthouses exactly alike -- one is the Poverty Island light at the north end of Lake Michigan east of Escanaba.

The Poverty Island light has a story-and-a-half one-family dwelling and an assistant keeper's dwelling. There are no bathrooms inside.

The tower has been decapitated. In the middle of the tower is the plastic light and solar panel that is still active. Someone could get the license to restore this. If you want to I'll be happy to try to get the lantern room back in the tower. It is now in a park

in Escanaba.

Sturgeon Point light on Lake Huron is similar to Poverty Island. (In the era of sturgeon spawning, they would wash up on shore by the thousands after spawning, thus the name.) The Alcona Historical Society has done an outstanding job of fixing it up after it was absolutely decimated by vandals in 1981-82.

A third similar light is at Tawas Point in a nice park to which you can drive. Coast Guard people still live there but not as keepers.

The fourth similar lighthouse is St. Helena Island light built about 1873. Our organization has a 30-year license to restore it and use it. It's on an island of about 240 acres about seven miles west of Mackinac Bridge and two miles off the Gros Cap shore.

This island, called St. Helene by the natives, was raided by King Strang from Beaver Island. It's fun to read stories about how they stole oxen from people who lived on the island.

The dwelling is on the bottom. There is also a boathouse and an assistant keeper's dwelling. It was built about 1873 and automated in 1922.

In March 1988 the roof was restored with boards and shingles donated by the Brown family of St. Ignace. (Prentiss Brown, Sr., was a congressman from Michigan and chairman of the board of Detroit Edison Company.)

Contractors preferred to work in March when it was easy to get back and forth by ice bridge from Gros Cap versus a ten-mile jaunt by boat from St. Ignace.

Somebody stole 1,500 bricks right out of the St. Helena light's wall. The association is trying to find the same size to replace them.

Boy Scout Troop 4, of Ann Arbor, led by Jack Edwards, helped clean up St. Helena the third week of June 1988. They donated 672 hours of work which translated into $3,280 of in-kind help toward a grant.

The Scouts also heard a Coast Guard man from St. Ignace explain how the light works and tell about his experiences in drug interdiction raids in the Caribbean.

Scout John Morrison of Ann Arbor Troop 61, sponsored by Domino's Farms, is working on a scale model of St. Helena as an Eagle Scout project. The troop is led by Harry Newton, a model builder for Domino's Pizza.

The Mackinac Island State Park Commission has indicated an interest in housing a model if it is of museum quality and in the preferred 1/8-inch to a foot scale.

MENDOTA LIGHT, 1870
On Keweenaw Peninsula at Bete Grise. Now a private residence.

Governor Blanchard presented a ceremonial check for a $20,000 grant to Moehl in ceremonies July 29 in St. Ignace to help GLLKA with the restoration.

Slides included Lake Superior lights at Big Bay Point, Christmas, Eagle Harbor (much photographed), Grand Island, Granite Island, Gull Rock, Huron Island, Marquette, Munising, Passage Island and Whitefish Point.

Other slides showed Straits of Mackinac lights at McGulpin's Point and Old Mackinac Point and Lake Michigan lights at Grand Traverse, Skillagalee, Squaw Island, St. Joe and White Lake. Close to home were Bay City, light ship Huron and St. Clair Flats.

Big Bay Point, now a (seven-bedroom) bed-and-breakfast inn, is for sale. (Big Bay, northwest of Marquette, is where the movie *Anatomy of a Murder* was photographed.)

Old Mackinac Point light east of the Mackinac Bridge is a museum as is White Lake light near Muskegon and Whitefish Point near Paradise. The light ship Huron is in a park in Port Huron.

The Marquette Light, open to visitors on Fridays, is used for Coast Guard apartments.

Squaw Island lighthouse, about 12 miles north of Beaver Island in northern Lake Michigan, was completely furnished, even including a pump organ, in 1965 when it was acquired by Tom Childs and the Little Traverse Conservancy.

Ironically this remote lighthouse has been completely stripped of furnishings. You could see snowmobile tracks leading to it on the ice in a March 1988 picture of Moehl's. *I'll be darned if I would go out there with a snowmobile.*

Front range and rear range lights are used in certain places, Munising and Presque Isle for example. When approaching ships line up the two lights they are coming into the harbor properly.

A rear range light on the Saginaw River at Bay City is for sale for $100,000. *It is on the historic register and you could probably park about 50 boats in there. You look across the river to a Consumer's Power plant.*

The problem is it's surrounded by Dow Chemical Company property. The three-story tower has about 500 square feet of living space. There is no electricity or sanitary facilities.

Pictured Rocks cruise boats from Munising go by the east channel light on Grand Island. It is wood and looking bad. A privately owned lighthouse on the north end of the island sits on a cliff 150-200 feet tall, making it one of the tallest in America.

GSWC TO HEAR ABOUT HERITAGE TOUR

Constance Olson of Ann Arbor will give *Comments on the 1989 Hartford Heritage Tour* she took in England last summer at the Genealogy Society of Washtenaw County meeting Sunday, February 25.

The meeting is at 1:30 p.m. in Liberal Arts and Sciences Building at Washtenaw Community College. A class on *Organizing Your Genealogy Project* by Carolyn Griffin follows. GSWC will sponsor an all day workshop Saturday, April 28.

MRS. PASTALAN ELECTED

Alice Pastalan has been re-elected president of Dexter Historical Society. Earl Doletzky is vice-president; Rose Van Aken, corresponding secretary; Dilys Wisely, recording secretary, and Nancy Walker, treasurer.

Charles Van Aken is museum director, Virginia Wilson, assistant director. Harold Samuelson is museum secretary and Mrs. Walker, treasurer.

ANDREW TEN BROOK:
FORGOTTEN FIGURE IN ANN ARBOR HISTORY

By Russell E. Bidlack

*(**Editor's Note:** Part 2 of Dean Bidlack's manuscript on one of the U-M's first professors and acting presidents, continued from the November-December issue. We pick up the story in 1863 just after Ten Brook and his family returned to Ann Arbor from Europe where he had been U.S. consul in Munich and just after U-M President Tappan was fired.)*

University historians agree that it was President Tappan who set the University on its path to greatness and find it as difficult today as did his friends in 1863 to understand how his contributions could have been so undervalued by the men who destroyed him.

James B. Angell, the University's president from 1871 to 1909, once observed that "Tappan was the largest figure of a man that ever appeared on the Michigan campus. And he was stung to death by gnats!"

Confident that a new Board of Regents would recall him to his post, Dr. Tappan went with his family to Switzerland to await a summons that never came.

At the same meeting during which Dr. Tappan was dismissed, his replacement was appointed, the Reverend Erastus Haven, a Methodist clergyman who earlier had been a member of the Michigan faculty, although after Ten Brook's departure.

The two men had become acquainted later, however, so it was not to a stranger that Ten Brook now applied for the return of his professorship.

Because of Dr. Tappan's popularity with students and townspeople, President Haven did not receive a warm welcome when he arrived in Ann Arbor in the summer of 1863. In his autobiography he recalled:

I found that the troubles had not been magnified; I could not obtain possession of the president's house for weeks, though it was vacant. Many of the citizens would not greet me personally.

It was soon rumored that I was intemperate, and all kinds of slanders were hinted at. The newspapers opposed had much more to say than those favorable, and during vacation it seemed that when the university opened again it would be stormy weather.

One of Dr. Tappan's many innovations had been to make the library an integral part of the instructional program. Its enrichment during his presidency is illustrated statistically in the collection's growth from 4,500 volumes to 13,500, but the number of books was but part of the enrichment that he provided.

Under John Tappan, the President's son, it ceased being a circulating library open one day a week for two to three hours to accommodate the faculty, but became a reading room for students open daily.

Dr. Tappan's philosophy regarding the place of the library in a university appeared in one of his reports to the regents as follows:

A library supplies the daily food of the mind . . . Books here are not an amusement or luxury; they are a prime necessity; they are fixed capital of a university.

Dr. Haven gradually won acceptance among most of the students and from most, but not all, of the members of the faculty. In September 1864 he found a place for Ten Brook.

Years later, Ten Brook recalled that it had been *on September 21, 1864, that President Haven walked to my house to ask me to take charge of the library; it was my 50th birthday.*

Especially pleasing to Ten Brook was that he could retain his former title, *Professor.* His annual salary would also be that of a faculty member, beginning at $1,500.

There were members of the faculty who never forgave Dr. Haven for taking Dr. Tappan's place, however, and these enemies of Haven were now also added to Ten Brook's list.

An illustration of this can be found in letters written by a faculty wife, Elizabeth DuBois, to the wife of Andrew D. White. White had been a close friend of Dr. Tappan while a member of the U-M faculty before accepting the presidency of Cornell University. In a letter dated May 5, 1864, Mrs. DuBois wrote:

Dr. Haven drives about in an open buggy with a poor little rat of a horse. *...I heard the other day that Mrs. Haven had said that she thought Mrs. Tappan must have been a very lazy woman to keep two girls...*

Our president's house must make a delightful impression upon the cultivated men who...visit the university. In place of the fine engravings of master pieces of art which formally adorned the parlors, the walls are beautified (now) by one large staring picture of Methodist Bishops all in a row.

Of Ten Brook, Mrs. DuBois wrote on January 22, 1876: *...and then Mr. Ten Brook's miserable management of the library is another injurious element. He knows so little about books that he is not fit for the position. ...He is very ambitious too, and I can scarcely sleep o'nights for fearing that...he may be gratified with a Professorship.*

Hasn't he gone and tucked his name into the Catalogue where never was (a librarian) found before-immediately below the list of full professors.

Although Mrs. Dubois was correct in saying that Ten Brook hoped to return to the teaching faculty, she was mistaken regarding his knowledge of books and libraries. He was a genuine scholar, well read in not only theology but also in philosophy, the Greek and Latin classics, and world history, and he could converse in four languages, including French and German.

While he had never been employed in a library, he had visited and used many libraries in Germany as well as the United States, and he had long had a curiosity regarding their management and operation.

Bibliographical description and indexing fascinated him, and he was quite aware that students, even faculty members, had difficulty finding materials on a subject when their only approach in a catalog was through the author's name. He had ideas for making that approach easier.

By nature a meticulous record keeper, Ten Brook submitted detailed annual reports to the U-M President and Regents that are a gold mine of information for today's University historian.

Housed in Mason Hall, the University's book collection had been moved to the new Law Building (later named Haven Hall) shortly before Ten Brooks's appointment.

The books were arranged according to *fixed location*, which meant that the call number represented the physical spot where a particular book belonged. Expressed in the form of a fraction, the lower number signified a specific shelf while the upper number indicated the book's position on that

shelf.

A *journal catalogue* had been introduced by John Tappan, with pages set aside for each letter of the alphabet under which each book had been entered according to the name of its author.

In his first report, dated September 26, 1865, Ten Brook informed the regents that he had counted the volumes held; the number was 13,551, but only 11,309 volumes were accounted for in the *journal catalogue.*

Not only had over 2,000 volumes been omitted, but many of those included had been lost. There were also 75 sets of unbound periodicals, though many were incomplete because faculty members had borrowed but never returned them.

Ten Brook concluded that the library's greatest need was a proper catalog, which to most scholars of the time meant a printed catalog.

Ten Brook, however, had visited Harvard's library where he had observed an entirely different concept of a library catalog-something called a *card catalogue.* The fact that the University of Michigan came to have the first card catalog west of Cambridge was Ten Brook's doing.

While small by today's standards, the cataloging task that Ten Brook set for himself in describing the U-M book collection on cards (hand-written,of course)with an author and subject entry, not only for each book but for each periodical article as well, was formidable.

His solution to the problem not only marked a *first* in Michigan history, it caused controversy as well. He engaged two young women in Ann Arbor, Mary Pepper and Elizabeth Farrand, each skilled in penmanship, to copy his entries on the cards.

They gradually learned to perform other library tasks as well, and became the first female employees of the University. Ten Brook responded to his critics as follows:

The experiment in the case of these ladies is decisively in favor of the policy of employing female assistance for some kinds of labor. There are indeed some services for which they cannot be called upon-for instance, taking down and replacing books belonging upon the higher shelves-yet in industry and fidelity, and in quickness and accuracy of perception and execution, they are quite in advance of average young men who would be obtained, and the consequence of there being fewer remunerative places open to females, they are ready to do faithful service at a much lower rate of pay.

The *much lower rate of pay* to which Ten Brook referred was 12 1/2 cents per hour.

Ten Brook's card catalog was in two parts, the *Nominative Catalogue* which consisted of author entries, including entries under title in absence of any author, and the *subjective Catalogue.*

In the latter, however, he did not use what we would call simple headings; he felt constrained to limit himself to the language of the title, simply inverting it to file under its key word.

When completed, Ten Brook's card catalog became a model for other libraries, and for many years it was shown with pride to campus visitors from other colleges and universities.

Ten Brook did not, however, invent the 3 x 5 size for catalog cards which would become standard. The size of his cards which he cut himself from sheets of heavy paper, was determined simply by the size of the drawers provided in the cabinet built by George Halor, the University's carpenter. They measured 3 1/4 x 5 1/2 inches.

Happily, eight of Ten Brook's cards survive today, in mint condition, at the Bentley library. They were removed in 1950 from the cornerstone of old University Hall where they had been deposited by Professor Ten Brook on Commencement Day, 1871. (We trust that he replaced these in the catalog itself.)

In his first report to the President and Regents in 1865, Ten Brook noted many shortcomings in the library besides it's inadequate catalog.

He complained the only provision for assistance in operating the library was a few hundred dollars to hire undergraduates on an hourly basis. More shelving was needed as well as seating space. There was no clock in the library.

The book collection, while large compared to that of most other universities in the Midwest, had many deficiencies. Faculty abused the rule that they could only have ten books checked out at a time.

Whereas at Harvard, the salaries of the library staff amounted to 1/7 of the institution's total salary budget, at Michigan it was less that 1/18. The reason for these problems was, in Ten Brooks words:

The library has not been kept along in even pace with the other departments in that career of rapid development which has characterized the institution.

The heads of the departments of Instruction, regarded as occupying a higher position than the person in charge of the Library, may naturally enough have had rear access to the Governing power to secure the needed facilities for the prosection of their works, and it is not to be wondered at, if they have sometimes acted not unlike the members of the body in Aesop's fable, who withheld their supplies from the stomach with the hope of securing their immediate and sole benefit to themselves.

The result of such course must ultimately be to diffuse the weaknesses and disorders of this great University stomach-the Library-through all the members of the body.

While today's presidents often refer to the library as the "heart of the university," perhaps Ten Brook's metaphor would be more appropriate, since a stomach, like a university library,is never satisfied for long.

In 1866, Ten Brook reported that he was at work preparing *a course of Bibliographical lectures* for students, observing the *few or none of the students know on entering the University how to use a library, & large numbers never learn.*

The series of lectures developed by Ten Brook on bibliography and library usage was in response to a request by Regent Henry C. Knight who quoted a statement that Ralph Waldo Emerson was then making on a lecture tour: *The colleges, whilst they provide us with libraries, furnish no professor of books; and I think no chair is so much needed.*

No academic credit was ever attached to Ten Brook's lectures, however, and they could not be called a success. According to a student publication of the time, at least one student failed to attend because he assumed that the subject was the Bible, i.e., *Bible-ography.*

While not winning student or faculty approval, Ten Brook's effort can be cited, nevertheless, as the earliest example in any American university of what is called today *bibliographic instruction.*

In response to Ten Brook's plea for a full-time library assistant, the Regents agreed to add $400 to his annual budget in 1867 to engage such a person. He chose a member of the 1866 graduating class, Edwin D. Kelley, with the understanding, however, that he would be succeeded the following year by a graduate of the next year's class.

On January 15, 1867, Andrew Ten Brook suffered a major personal loss. Sarah Ten Brook, his wife of nearly 25 years died, from what cause we do not know. Four days earlier, Alpheus Felch, former U.S. Senator, helped Sarah write her will.

Because Sarah knew from bitter experience that Andrew was no businessman, she had invested part of her inheritance in Ann Arbor land in her own name, including a triangular tract between Geddes and South University Avenues, east of Elm Street.

In her will, Sarah left her property to her husband, except for $50.00 reserved for Margaret Schnapp, the German servant girl whom the Ten Brooks had brought from Munich.

It has not been discovered when Ten Brook built his fine home on Washtenaw Avenue, on the land he had purchased in 1848. Located near where the Trotter House stands today, and surrounded by eleven acres of lawn and trees, with barn and meadow in the rear, this house was featured in a half-page engraving in an 1874 atlas of Washtenaw County.

It was probably in this house that Sarah Ten Brook died. We know that it was *the fine home* described by Emma Smallwood Smoot, the 46-year-old widow *of some means* whom Professor Ten Brook brought to Ann Arbor in the summer of 1868 following their marriage in Washington, D.C.

(Mrs. Smoot had a brother who was a prominent Baptist minister which may account for her becoming known to Ten Brook.) Her two children, 11-year-old Kenneth and 9-year-old Matilda, accompanied her.

Recalling her pleasure at seeing the fine Ten Brook house, she also remembered twenty years later that when they had been married on June 30, 1868, she thought *that her husband was one of the most learned professors of the university, and was somewhat disappointed to find that he only held the position of librarian.*

As this 1887 remark suggests, this second marriage for both Andrew and Emma did not prove to be happy. In fact, Ten Brook would charge later that Emma's *conduct was such that it rendered his married life insufferable*, while Emma would claim that Andrew's *paroxysms of rage without any cause whatever* often caused her to be *in great fear of physical violence at his hands.* We shall return to this domestic conflict later.

The pattern which Ten Brook had set for his annual appointment of an assistant from the graduating class was disrupted after only two years when a local politician, then the town's postmaster, Col. Claudius B. Grant, persuaded the Regents to appoint a friend of his to this post. The friend was Raymond C. Davis (1836-1919).

Ten Brook suffered another disappointment in 1869 when President Haven, who had restored him to a position with the University, accepted the presidency of Northwestern University.

With Haven's departure, Ten Brook now entertained the hope, and did some foolish lobbying among Regents that his old friend and fellow Baptist minister, Dr. Martin B. Anderson, President of the University of Rochester, might be named as Haven's successor. The man eventually chosen, however, was James B. Angell, President of the University of Vermont.

Almost from the day of Angell's arrival in Ann Arbor, it was apparent that he had taken a dislike toward the librarian. He was shocked to discover that Ten Brook's salary was now $2,000. With Regental approval, he reduced the figure to $1,500.

(It was also at this time that Emma Ten Brook, like her husband's first wife, was required to open a boarding house in their home.)

In 1872, Claudius B. Grant was elected to the Board of Regents, an event which eventually would seal Ten Brook's fate. Shirley Smith, the University's long-time secretary, once described Grant as a Civil War colonel who *never got over it.*

While having no personal grudge against Ten Brook, Grant was determined to replace him as librarian with his friend, Raymond C. Davis.

On one occasion, Grant recalled the very day, October 1,1855, that he and Davis had met as fellow freshmen on the U-M campus. He added: *Our acquaintance soon ripened into friendship and our friendship into love for each other.*

A Library Committee consisting of both faculty and Regents had been established to monitor library concerns, and in 1873, while Regent Grant was a member, that committee recommended that Davis replace Ten Brook. The latter was not without friends among the Regents, however, and the report was ignored.

Other crises followed, however, and as student complaints mounted regarding the inadequacy of the library, not only in terms of the number of books and periodicals, but also the reading room's limited seating (only 100 chairs could be fitted into the available space), and the hours of service, Ten Brook came increasingly under fire. Solutions to these problems were, of course, beyond his control.

Although Ten Brook regularly stated in his annual reports that he spent long hours in the library throughout the entire year, rarely taking a single day as vacation, there were complaints that he spent many of those hours pursuing his own research and writing.

A product of those hours of research and writing appeared in 1875 when Robert Clarke & Company in Cincinnati published Ten Brook's *American State Universities.*

A handsome volume of over 400 pages, it bears the subtitle *Their Origin and Progress; a History of Congressional University Land-Grants: a Particular Account of the Rise and Development of the University of Michigan; and Hints Toward the Future of the American University System.*

The part devoted to the history of the University of Michigan was substantial, and therein Ten Brook did not hesitate to identify individuals (including Regents) closely associated with that history, whether, in Ten Brook's view, they were heroes or villians.

Note, for example, his reference to a resolution once introduced by Regent Abner Pratt who, besides serving as a Regent, had once served as a chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court:

> *Crude and illogical in thought, inexact and coarse in expression, the production of a man who had just come into the board and knew nothing of what an educational body should be or do, a true demagogue without culture and used only to the stump, he has given in this resolution a skeleton of a stump speech.*

While Ten Brook treated President Angell with respect in his book, he gave considerably greater praise to Angell's predecessors, Presidents Tappan and Haven.

As he might have guessed, Angell was not pleased with the work, nor were a number of the Regents. In his subsequent troubles with Angell and certain Regents, however, no public reference was ever made to his book.

(To be continued in March 1990 Issue.)

HISTORIC HAPPENINGS INVOLVE CRAFTS, GARDENS, QUILTS, BLACK HISTORY & EMU'S OLDEST BUILDING

Chelsea Historical Society: Annual founder's dinner (potluck) at 6:30 p.m. Monday, February 12, at the Crippen House at Chelsea Methodist Home.

Dexter Society: 8 p.m. first Thursday at museum, 3443 Inverness, Vice-president Earl Doletzky will give reminiscences and anecdotes of his years as justice of the peace and magistrate in Dexter township, March 1. Open to public. Refreshments.

Annual pioneer craft fair Saturday, March 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at high school. Museum closed until May except by appointment, 426-2519. Charles Van Aken is the new museum director.

The Society plans to establish a quilt registry, collecting photographs and as much information as possible in a permanent book in the museum. They invite any quilt owner who would like his/her quilt's history recorded to call the museum.

Manchester Society: 7:30 p.m. third Monday at Blacksmith Shop, 324 East Main.

Milan Society: 7:30 p.m. third Wednesday at Hack House, 775 County Street.

Pittsfield Society: 2 p.m. first Sunday at Pittsfield township hall, State and Ellsworth Roads.

Salem Society: A special tour of Eastern Michigan University's oldest building, Welch Hall, built in 1896, which was saved from the wrecker's ball and recently restored, is planned at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, February 22, by the Society. Visitors are welcome to joint hem by calling Vicki Bragg, 455-8554. Their regular meeting will follow in EMU's Strong Hall.

Saline Society: 7 p.m. third Wednesday at the Senior Center, 7605 North Maple Road. Patricia Hopkinson, associate director of the U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, will present a history of the gardens and highlights of their first flower and garden show April 6-8 at Yost Arena. The meeting is open to the public without charge.

Webster Society: 7:45 p.m. second Monday in member homes.

Ypsilanti Society: Valentines, Black history and old calendars are the subjects of special exhibits through February at the museum, 220 North Huron.

The valentines were collected by Miss Ellen Gould, a retired teacher. Ypsilanti inventor Elijah McCoy and Sojourner Truth are featured in the display for Black history month.

A Scrapbook History of Lincoln Consolidated, The Building 1924-1961 has been presented to the museum by David S. Flower of Ann Arbor who collected and assembled it. It includes detailed histories of the one-room Augusta township schools which were incorporated into the first consolidated district in the area.

Museum hours 2-4 p.m. Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Archives open 9 a.m.-noon Monday-Friday.

CHELSEA PICKS MRS. CLARK

Kathleen J. Clark is the new president of Chelsea Historical Society succeeding Arline Lynch who now is secretary. Hazel Dittmar is vice-president and David Pastor, treasurer. Rose Reinhardt was named to the Board.

FRIEZE COUCH, ART WORKS GIVEN WCHS

A couch and two pieces of artwork have been given to WCHS recently.

The couch, which bears a brass plate with the name of Henry Simmons Frieze, one-time professor and acting U-M president in 1869, is believed to have been owned by him. It has been placed on loan in the old U-M Observatory where those attending the February meeting can see it.

An oil painting of a scene on North Main Street showing the old jail which used to stand where the Ann Arbor Community Center is now has been given by George S. Scott of Hutchins Street.

It was painted by his great-grandmother, Mrs. James Ottley, who used to live where old University Hospital was.

A sculpture or figurine of three women in classical draped gowns was given by Arnell Van Sickle of Geddes Heights. It was made by Mrs. Warren McLean, wife of a longtime State Street grocer and friend of his adoptive mother. The women were in a group which hired U-M professors to teach them art and sculpture.

WHAT IS IT? GAME AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS

WCHS offers a traveling exhibit of small artifacts set up as a humorous *what is it?* game for children to schools and another for adults.

They are available for classes and meetings, subject to time and volunteer availability. For information call Arlene Schmid, 665-8773.

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Published September-May except January.

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
2:00 p.m. Sunday
February 18, 1990

Old U-M Observatory

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Ann Arbor, Michigan

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